

Claims

What is claimed is :

1. A method, for generating from a speaker device, a Speech Hyperlink-Time table during a speech, said Speech Hyperlink-Time table being accessible by one or a
5. plurality of auditors, comprising the steps of:

- locating and accessing a Speech Hyperlink table comprising :
 - means for identifying one or a plurality of predefined hyperlinked terms intended to be pronounced by a speaker;
 - means for locating and accessing information related to each of said one or
 - 10 plurality of predefined hyperlinked terms;
- retrieving means for locating and accessing a Speech Hyperlink-Time table;

during the speech :

- recognizing, when they are pronounced by the speaker, the hyperlinked terms predefined in the Speech Hyperlink table by means of a speech recognition
- 15 system connected to the speaker device;

for each recognized hyperlinked term :

- determining an universal-time corresponding to the pronunciation by the speaker of the recognized hyperlinked term;
- creating a new record on the Speech Hyperlink-Time table;
- 20 • copying into said new record :
 - the universal-time corresponding pronunciation by the speaker of the recognized hyperlinked term;
 - means, retrieved from the Speech Hyperlink table, for identifying the recognized hyperlinked term;
 - 25 • means, retrieved from the Speech Hyperlink table, for locating and accessing information related to the recognized hyperlinked term.

2. The method according to the preceding claim comprising the preliminary steps of :

- creating a Speech Hyperlink table, preferably in the speaker device;
- defining, in said Speech Hyperlink table, hyperlinks to one or a plurality of
5 servers where information related to predefined terms can be accessed.

3. The method according to the preceding claim wherein the step of defining, in said Speech Hyperlink table, hyperlinks to one or a plurality of servers where information related to predefined hyperlinked terms can be accessed, comprises the further steps of:

- 10 • predefining hyperlinked terms intended to be pronounced by the speaker during a speech;

and, for each new predefined hyperlinked term :

- creating a new record in the Speech Hyperlink table;
- assigning and copying means for identifying the predefined hyperlinked term in
15 said record;
- assigning and copying means for locating and accessing information related to the predefined hyperlinked term in said record.

4. The method according to any one of claims 2 to 3 wherein the step of creating a Speech Hyperlink table, preferably in the speaker device, comprises the further
20 steps of:

- assigning to said Speech Hyperlink table means for locating and accessing the Speech Hyperlink-Time table;
- copying said locating and accessing means in the Speech Hyperlink table, preferably in a header.

25 5. The method according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the step of recognizing, when they are pronounced by the speaker, the hyperlinked terms

predefined in the Speech Hyperlink table by means of a speech recognition system connected to the speaker device, comprises the preliminary step, before the speech, of :

- training the speech recognition system to recognize the predefined hyperlinked terms when they are pronounced by the speaker.
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6. The method according to any one of the preceding claims wherein said speech is a television or radio broadcast program.
7. The method according to any one of the preceding claims wherein :
- said information related to a predefined hyperlinked term is located on one or a plurality of servers;
 - said means for identifying a predefined hyperlinked term comprises a name and/or a description;
 - said means for locating and accessing information related to a predefined hyperlinked term comprises a destination address within a network;
 - 15 • said Speech Hyperlink-Time table is located on a Speech Server;
 - said means for locating and accessing the Speech Hyperlink-Time table comprises a destination address within a network.
8. The method according to any one of the preceding claims wherein :
- said network is an internet network;
 - 20 • said destination addresses are Uniform Resource Locators;
 - information related to a predefined term is a web page;
 - said servers are web servers.
9. The method according to any one of the preceding claims comprising the step of:
- sending to one or a plurality of auditor devices means for locating and accessing the Speech Hyperlink-Time table.
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10. A speaker device comprising means adapted for carrying out the method according to any one of the preceding claims.

11. A computer program comprising instructions for carrying out the method according to any one of claims 1 to 8 when executed on the speaker device
5 according to the preceding claim.

12. A method for selecting from an auditor device, one or a plurality of hyperlinked terms pronounced by a speaker during the course of a speech, and for accessing, at a later time, information related to each of said one or plurality of selected hyperlinked terms, comprising the steps of:

- 10 • each time a selection command is received for selecting a term currently pronounced by a speaker during the course of a speech:
 - determining the current universal-time;
 - recording the current universal-time in a Selections Hyperlink-Time table;
- accessing a Speech Hyperlink-Time table, said Speech Hyperlink-Time table,
15 accessible by one or a plurality of auditor devices, comprising for each one of a plurality of predefined hyperlinked terms pronounced by the speaker :
 - an universal-time interval corresponding to the pronunciation of the predefined hyperlinked term;
 - means for identifying the predefined hyperlinked term;
 - 20 • means for locating and accessing information related to the predefined hyperlinked term;

for each universal-time recorded in the Selections Hyperlink-Time table:

- identifying in the Speech Hyperlink-Time table, the selected hyperlinked term pronounced at the recorded universal-time;
- 25 • retrieving from the Speech Hyperlink-Time table, said means for identifying and for locating and accessing the selected hyperlinked term;
- storing the retrieved means for identifying the selected hyperlinked term and for locating and accessing information related to the selected hyperlinked term into the Selections Hyperlink-Time table.

13. The method according to the preceding claim comprising the preliminary step of:

- creating the Selections Hyperlink-Time table for the speech.

14. The method according to any one of claims 12 to 13 comprising the preliminary step of:

- 5 • receiving means for locating and accessing a Speech Hyperlink-Time table.

15. The method according to any one of claims 12 to 14 wherein :

- information related to a hyperlinked term is located on one or a plurality of servers;
- said means for identifying a hyperlinked term comprises a name and/or a description;
- 10 • said means for locating and accessing information related to a hyperlinked term comprises a destination address within a network;
- said Speech Hyperlink-Time table is located on a Speech Server (803);
- said means for locating and accessing the Speech Hyperlink-Time Table
- 15 comprises a destination address within a network.

16. The method according to any one of claims 12 to 15 wherein :

- said network is an internet network;
- said destination addresses are Uniform Resource Locators;
- information related to a term is a web page;
- 20 • said auditor device comprises a web browser;
- said servers are web servers.

17. The method according to any one of claims 12 to 16 comprising the further step of:

- receiving a display command for displaying information related to a hyperlinked term, said display command comprising means for identifying said hyperlinked term;
- identifying, in the Selections Hyperlink-Time table, means for locating and
5 accessing information related to said hyperlinked term;
- retrieving and displaying said information.

18. The method according to any one of claims 12 to 17 wherein said speech is a television or radio broadcast program.

19. An auditor device comprising means adapted for carrying out the method
10 according to any one of claims 12 to 18.

20. A computer program comprising instructions for carrying out the method according to any one of claims 12 to 18 when executed on the auditor device according to the preceding claim.